

NOR WAS
THERE ANY
MAN IN THE
ROMAN
REPUBLIC
WHO COULD
MATCH THE
NOMADIC
NUMIDIANS
WHEN IT
CAME TO
HORSEMAN-
SHIP...

AS NO ONE
IN THE
SENATE HAD
PREDICTED
THAT
HANNIBAL
WOULD
CROSS
THE ALPS
...

MY FATHER'S
FAILURE WAS
OVERLOOKED
AND HE WAS
INSTEAD,
OFFERED A
CHANCE TO
RECLAIM HIS
HONOUR.

CHAPTER 12: SACRIFICE OF A HERO



I THANK
YOU FOR
THIS
HONOUR
...

I SWEAR
THAT MY
NEXT BATTLE
SHALL NOT
BRING ANY
FURTHER
SHAME TO
ROME'S
NAME.

TO
SERVE AS
REINFORCE-
MENTS
FOR MY
UNCLE
GNAEUS,
HIS
BROTHER.

IT WAS
DECIDED
THAT HE
WOULD BE
DISPATCHED
TO IBERIA,
HANNIBAL'S
HOME
TERRITORY



NOW THEN...
AS TO OUR
NEXT TOPIC
OF THE
DAY,

THE
MATTER OF
SEMPRONIUS
...

ad astra episode 012

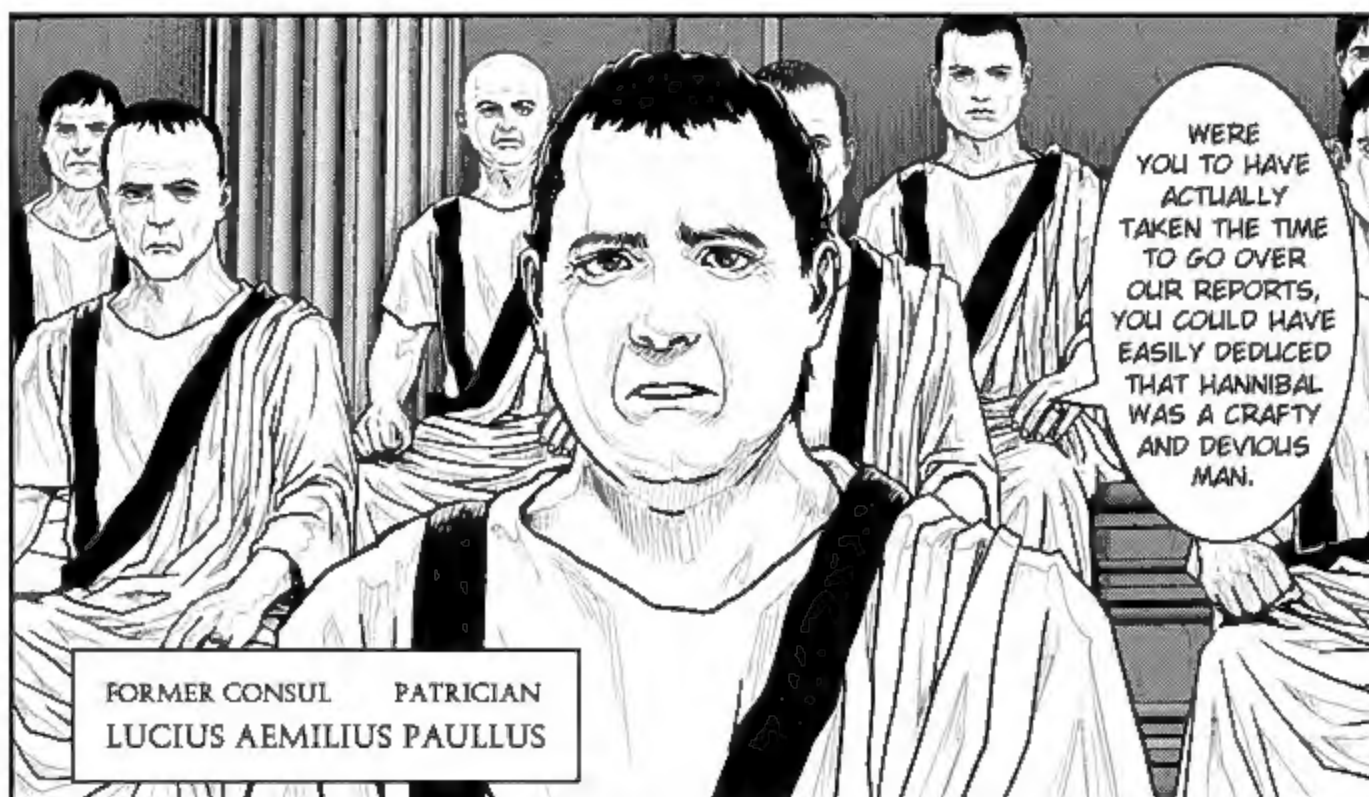
CHAPTER 12



SACRIFICE OF A HERO



AUTHOR'S NOTE: NORMALLY THE CONSUL WOULD SERVE AS THE CHAIRPERSON BUT IN THIS CASE, WHERE A CONSUL HIMSELF WAS ON TRIAL, THE DUTY WENT TO FABIUS INSTEAD.





THE MAN IN QUESTION SEEMS TO BE SUFFICIENTLY REMORSEFUL FOR HIS ACTIONS.

ISN'T THAT QUITE ENOUGH, I SAY?

AS A FELLOW PLEB, IT PAINS MY HEART TO SEE THIS CONTINUE.

FORMER CONSUL PLEBELAN
GAIUS FLAMINIUS NEPOS

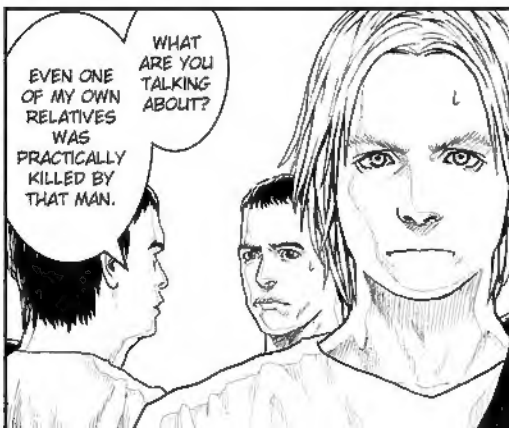


THIS IS A CRIME SO HUGE THAT EVEN YOUR DEATH CANNOT HOPE TO REPAY IT!

YOU SHOULD BE GLAD THAT ROME'S LAWS FORBID US FROM EXECUTING DEFEATED COMMANDERS!



THE CRIES OF BEREAVED FAMILIES ARE RINGING OUT ACROSS THE CITY!



EVEN ONE OF MY OWN RELATIVES WAS PRACTICALLY KILLED BY THAT MAN.

WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?



DAMN, AREN'T THEY GOING A BIT OVERBOARD WITH THAT?



THAT'S 20 000 SOLDIERS YOU'VE LOST US BOTH TO DEATH AND CAPTURED AS PRISONERS!

IF THIS WERE CARTHAGE, YOU WOULD HAVE BEEN SUMMARILY EXECUTED FOR THIS BLUNDER!



YOUR REPORT MAY HAVE STATED THAT YOU BROKE OUT OF THE ENEMY'S TRAP BY YOUR OWN MEANS,

BUT I'VE ALSO HEARD RUMOURS THAT YOU BARELY MANAGED TO ESCAPE THANKS TO SOME GREENHORNS HELPING YOU!



AND NOW WE PLEBS HAVE BEEN SHACKLED WITH THE IMAGE OF INCOMPETENT BUFFOONRY.

AND AS THE FATES WOULD HAVE IT, IT HAS UNFORTUNATELY WORKED AGAINST HIM IN THIS CASE.



I SEE THIS NOT AS A MAN WHO ACTED RASHLY OUT OF A DESIRE FOR PERSONAL GLORY,

BUT A PLEB WHO EAGERLY JUMPED AT THE OPPORTUNITY TO BETTER HIS LOT IN LIFE.



IT IS MY INTENT TO RUN FOR THE NEXT CONSULSHIP IN THE COMING ELECTION,

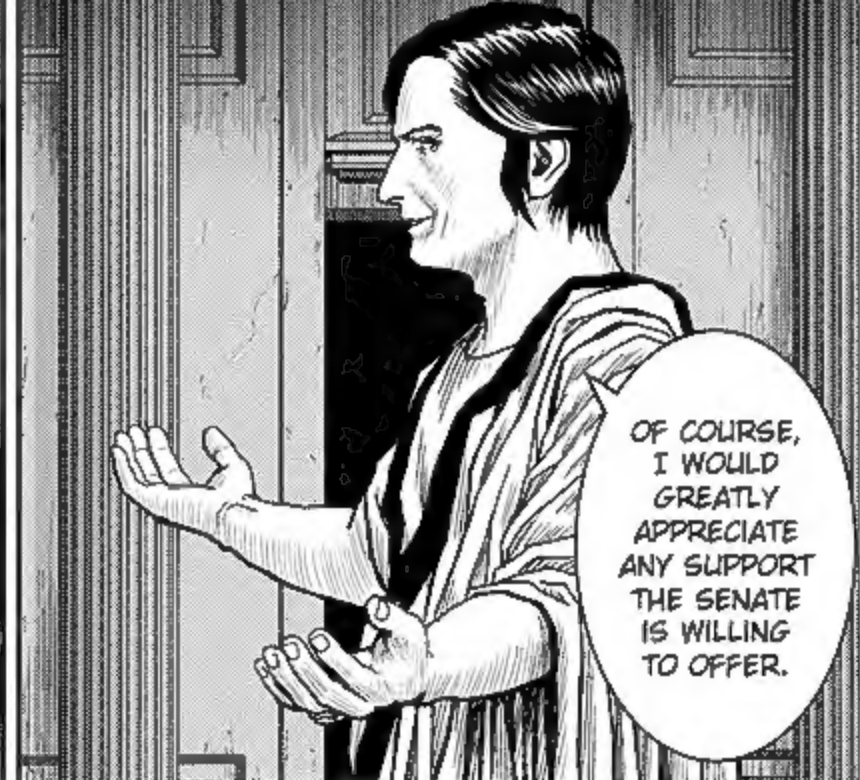
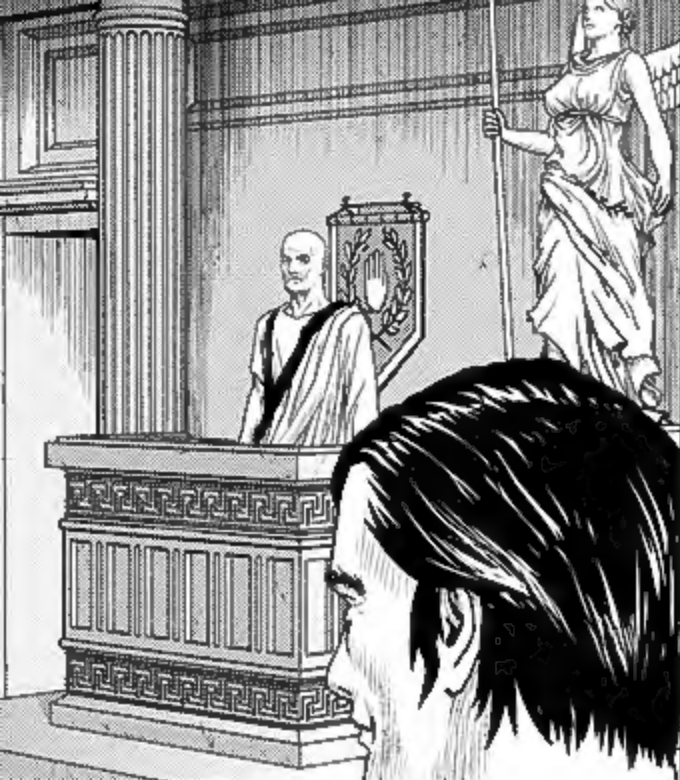
AND I SHALL TEACH THIS YOUNG UPSTART FROM CARTHAGE A LESSON HE WILL NOT SOON FORGET.

THIS DISGRACE BROUGHT ON BY A PLEB CAN ONLY BE REDEEMED BY ANOTHER PLEB!



...

WHAT !?



OF COURSE,
I WOULD
GREATLY
APPRECIATE
ANY SUPPORT
THE SENATE
IS WILLING
TO OFFER.

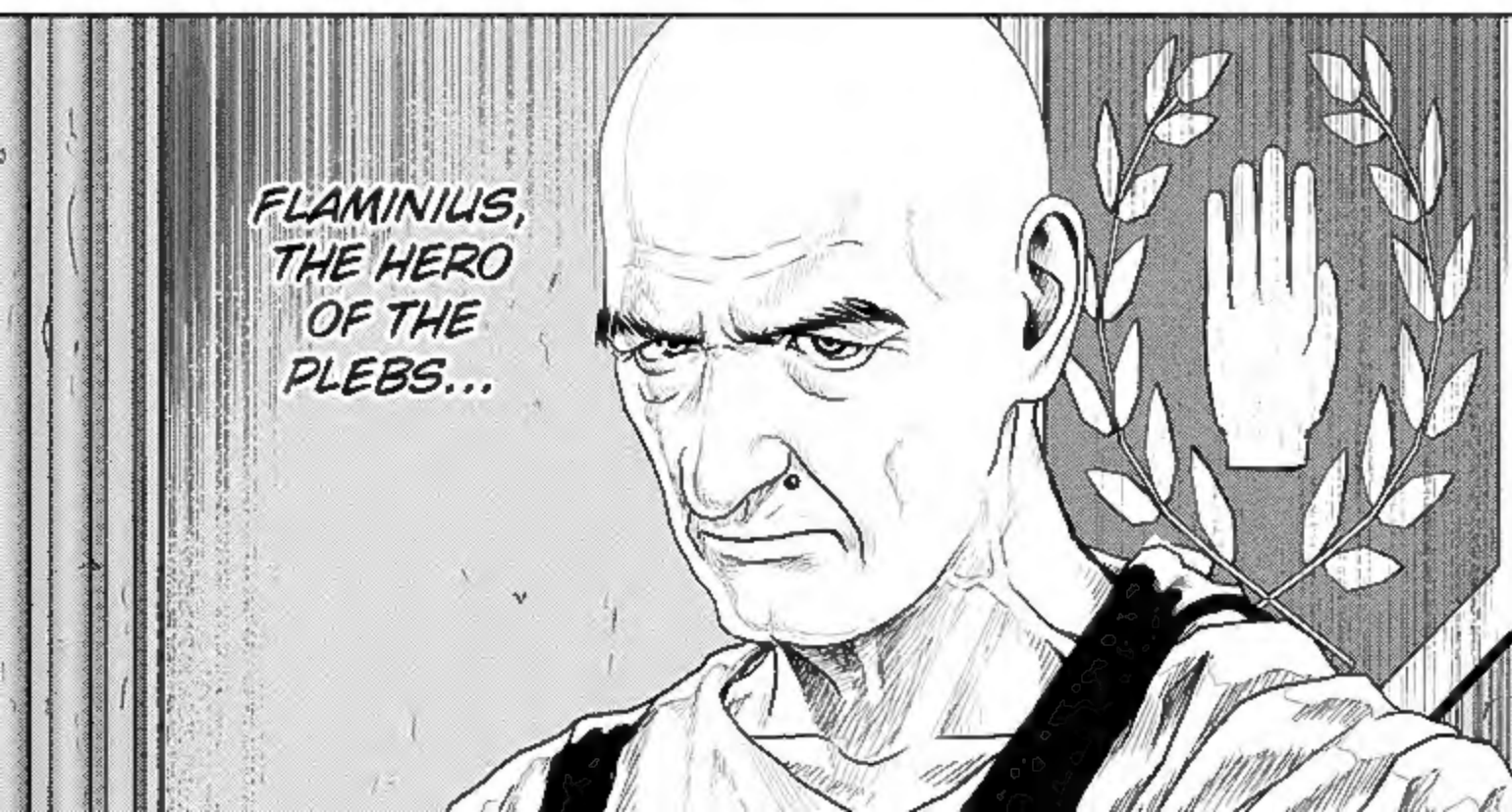


BUT WITH
ROME'S
PEACE AT
STAKE IN
THIS
MATTER,

I DO
HOPE YOU
WILL NOT
ALLOW YOUR
PERSONAL
ENMITY TO
CLOUD YOUR
JUDGEMENT.

ESPECIALLY
THOSE
PATRICIAN
MEMBERS
OF THE
SENATE.

I UNDERSTAND
SOME OF YOU
MAY HOLD A
PERSONAL
GRUDGE
AGAINST ME,



**FLAMINIUS,
THE HERO
OF THE
PLEBS...**

YES,
AND?
WHAT
OF IT?

WE WILL
NEVER ASSIST
SOMEONE
WHO SEEKS
PUBLIC FAVOUR
JUST TO
OBTAIN MORE
VOTES!

HOW
DARE
YOU
SHOW
SUCH
CHEEK!

I MAY NOT
APPROVE OF HIM,
BUT HE IS
DEFINITELY A
MAN WORTHY OF
RESPECT AS
A POLITICIAN.

BUT THERE'S NO
DOUBT THAT HIS
ENDEAVOURS HAVE
BEEN FOR THE
SAKE OF THE PLEBS,
AND ALL DONE
WHILE SUFFERING
DISFAVOUR FROM
OTHERS.

SEEKING
PUBLIC
FAVOUR,
HUH...

IT'S ALL
BECAUSE
OF YOU THAT
OUR EARNINGS
HAVE BEEN
PRACTICALLY
CUT IN HALF!
DO YOU TAKE
US FOR
FOOLS!?

WHY
MUST WE
BE FORCED
TO ASSIST
YOU OF ALL
PEOPLE!?

IT'S ALL
DUE TO THIS
MAN'S
MEDDLING
THAT I WAS
FORCED
TO STOP
DABBLING
IN THE
SLAVE
TRADE!

HOW
AM I
SUPPOSED
TO MAKE
ANYTHING
WHEN WE'RE
FORBIDDEN
FROM USING
LARGE
SHIPS?

HIS ACTIONS HAVE
FORBIDDEN FORMER
MEMBERS OF THE
SENATE FROM
POSSESSING LARGE
TRADE VESSELS,

WHILE ALSO
GRANTING
THE POORER
CLASSES
INCREASED
VOTING
POWER.

EVERY
SINGLE
ONE OF THE
POLICIES
PUSHED
FORWARD BY
FLAMINIUS

HAS SERVED
TO WEAKEN
THE SPECIAL
PRIVILEGES
ENJOYED
ONLY BY THE
PATRICIANS.

IT'S NO
SURPRISE
THAT
FLAMINIUS
IS LOATHED
BY THE
PATRICIANS...



I ASK THAT
YOU RECALL
MY MILITARY
EXPLOITS
THIS FAR.

DO
YOU NOT
UNDER-
STAND
THAT OUR
BATTLE
AGAINST
HANNI-
BAL

WILL
NOT TAKE
PLACE IN
THE FORUM,
BUT ON THE
BATTLE-
FIELD?

DEAR ME,
TRULY YOU
LEAVE ME
DUMB-
FOUNDED...



WHO
WAS THE
MAN THAT
BROUGHT
THE
INSUBRES
TRIBE OF
GAULS TO
HEEL?

WHO
WAS THE
MAN THAT
SET UP TO
ROME'S
NORTH,

THE MOST
CRUCIAL
STRONGHOLDS
IN THE FORM
OF THE
COLONIES OF
CREMONA AND
PLACENTIA?

CARTHAGE



IN FACT, I
ENCOURAGE
YOU TO DO
SO!



FEEL FREE
TO BACK THE
PROTEGES
YOU HAVE
SPENT SO
MUCH TIME
GROOMING.

IF, EVEN
AFTER
TAKING ALL
THIS INTO
CONSIDERATION,
YOU STILL
WILL NOT
SUPPORT ME,
THEN SO
BE IT.



IMAGINE
WHAT WOULD
HAPPEN IF YOU
WERE TO BE
DEFEATED BY
HANNIBAL ONCE
AGAIN IN THE
NEXT BATTLE.

BUT IF YOU
WERE TO
OUST ME
WHEN I HAVE
THE PEOPLE'S
SUPPORT
PURELY
BECAUSE OF
YOUR SELFISH
GRUDGES...



ARE YOU
WILLING
TO TAKE
THAT RISK?

WILL YOU
PATRICIANS
BE ABLE TO
WITHSTAND

THE HARSH
CRITICISMS
LEVELED AT
YOU BY THE
CITIZENS OF
ROME?



ONCE THE
MASSES
GO OUT OF
CONTROL,
NO ONE WILL
BE ABLE
TO REIN
THEM IN.

FIRE,
ARSON,
MURDER...

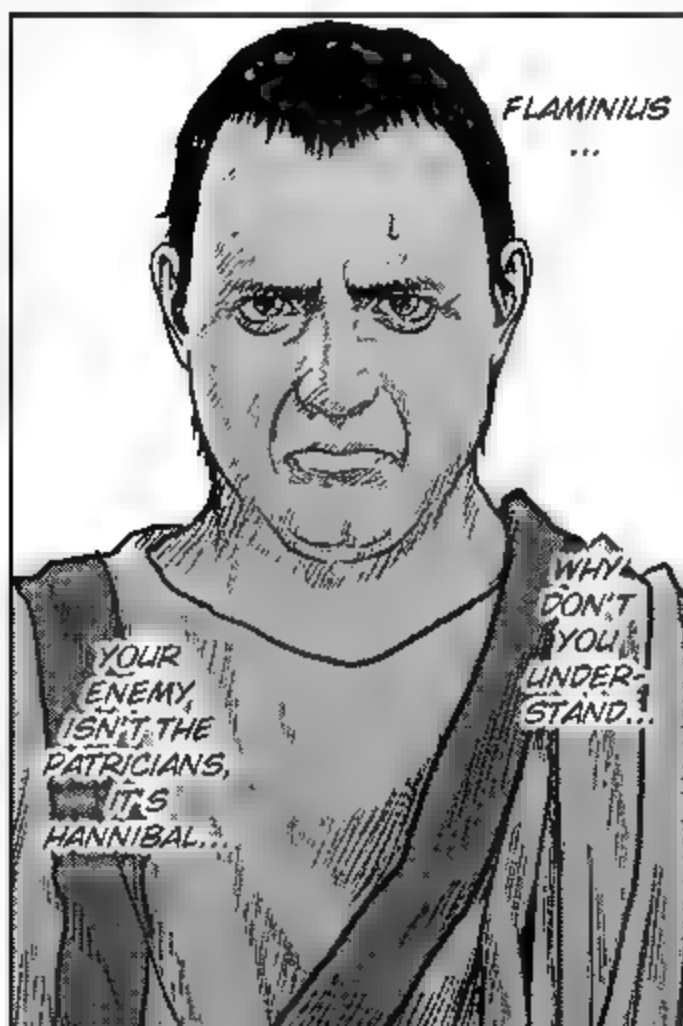
I'D ADVISE
YOU NOT TO
UNDER-
ESTIMATE THE
STRENGTH
OF THE
COMMONER'S
FURY.



I-IS HE
THREATEN-
ING US!?



THIS MAN...
HE'S JUST
LIKE...



FLAMINIUS

...

YOUR
ENEMY,
ISN'T THE
PATRICIANS,
IT'S
HANNIBAL...

WHY
DON'T
YOU
UNDER-
STAND...



BLINDED BY
ARROGANCE
AND HUBRIS.

WORST OF
ALL, HIS SELF
DELUSIONS ARE
OF A MAGNITUDE
EVEN GREATER
THAN MINE
WERE.

IT IS
ALMOST LIKE
LOOKING INTO
A MIRROR
AND SEEING
MY PAST
SELF.

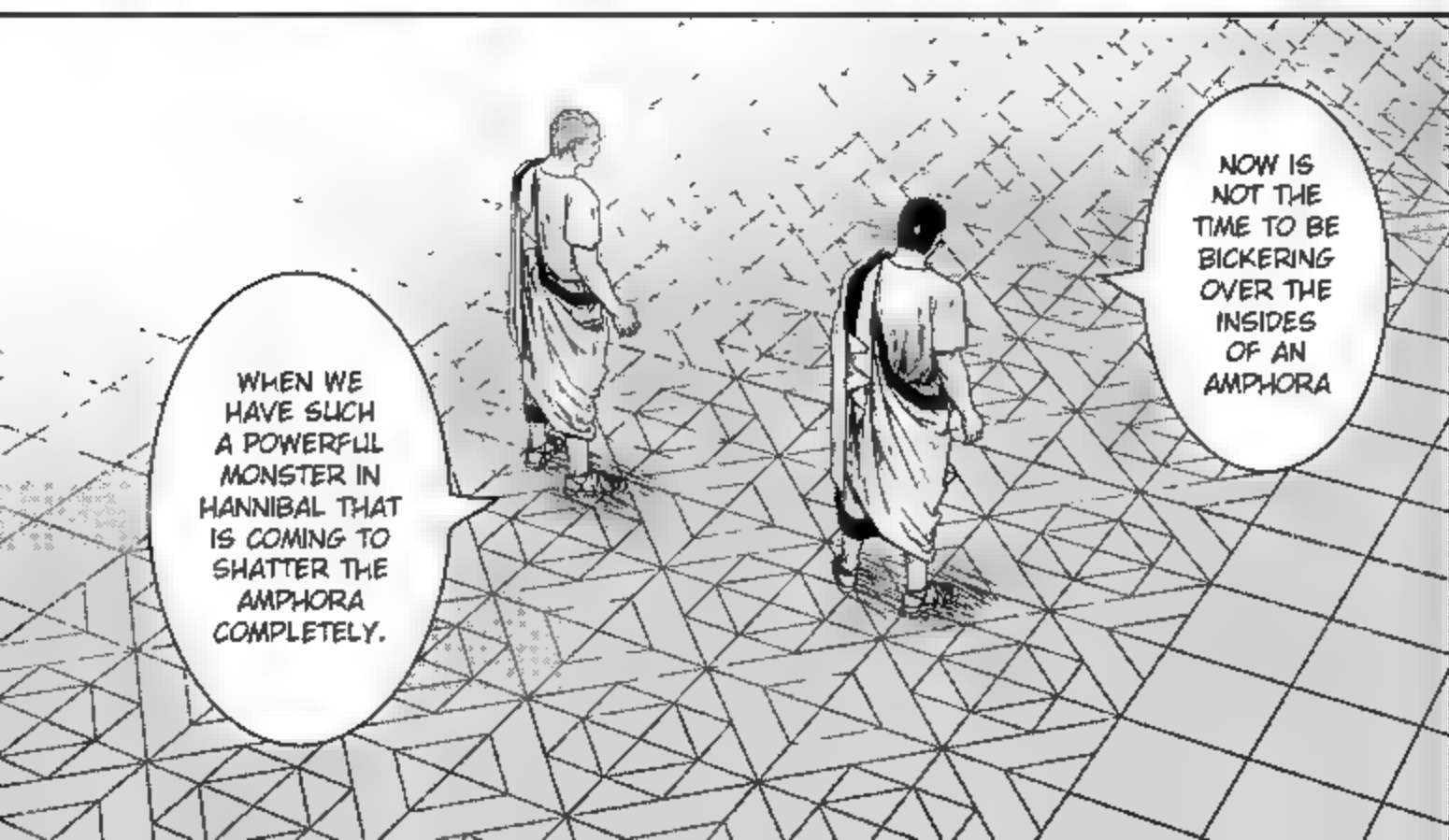


SOMEONE
NEEDS TO
MAKE HIM
REALISE
THAT...

NOT THAT
HE'LL
LISTEN,
BUT...

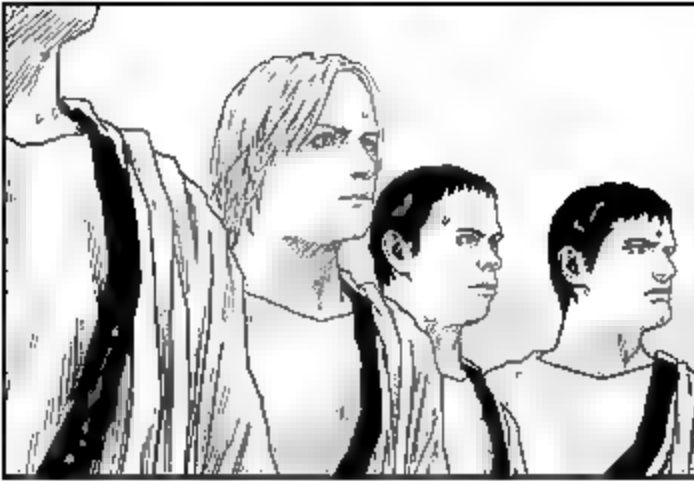


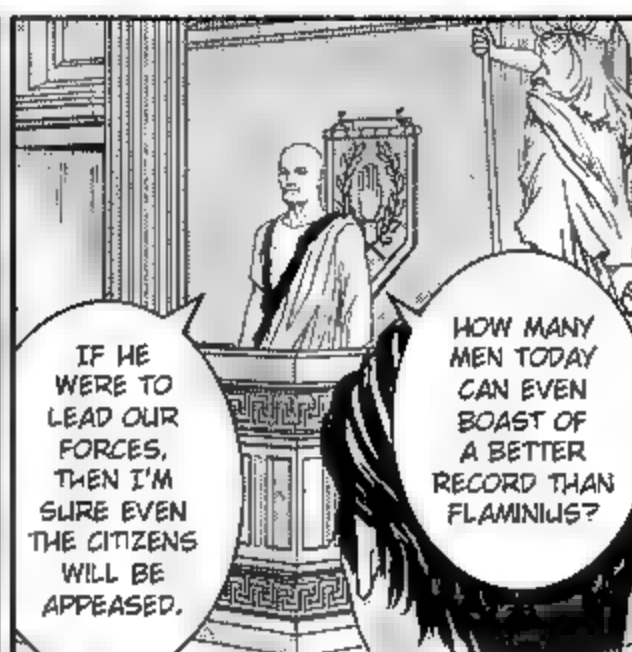
...
AGREED.



WHEN WE
HAVE SUCH
A POWERFUL
MONSTER IN
HANNIBAL THAT
IS COMING TO
SHATTER THE
AMPHORA
COMPLETELY.

NOW IS
NOT THE
TIME TO BE
BICKERING
OVER THE
INSIDES
OF AN
AMPHORA





IF HE
WERE TO
LEAD OUR
FORCES,
THEN I'M
SURE EVEN
THE CITIZENS
WILL BE
APPEASED.

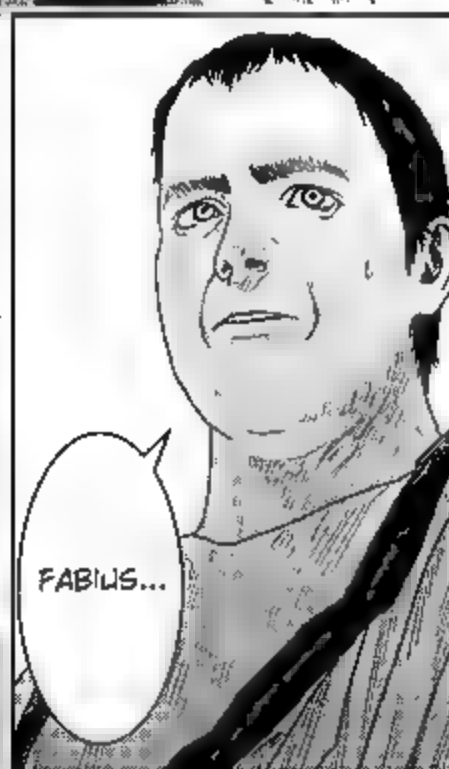
HOW MANY
MEN TODAY
CAN EVEN
BOAST OF
A BETTER
RECORD THAN
FLAMINIUS?

TO
FLAMINIUS,
HERO OF
THE PLEBS.

LET US
ENTRUST
THIS MATTER
TO HIM.



NO...



FABIUS...



**I HAVE
RECEIVED
THE
BACKING
OF THE
SENATE!**

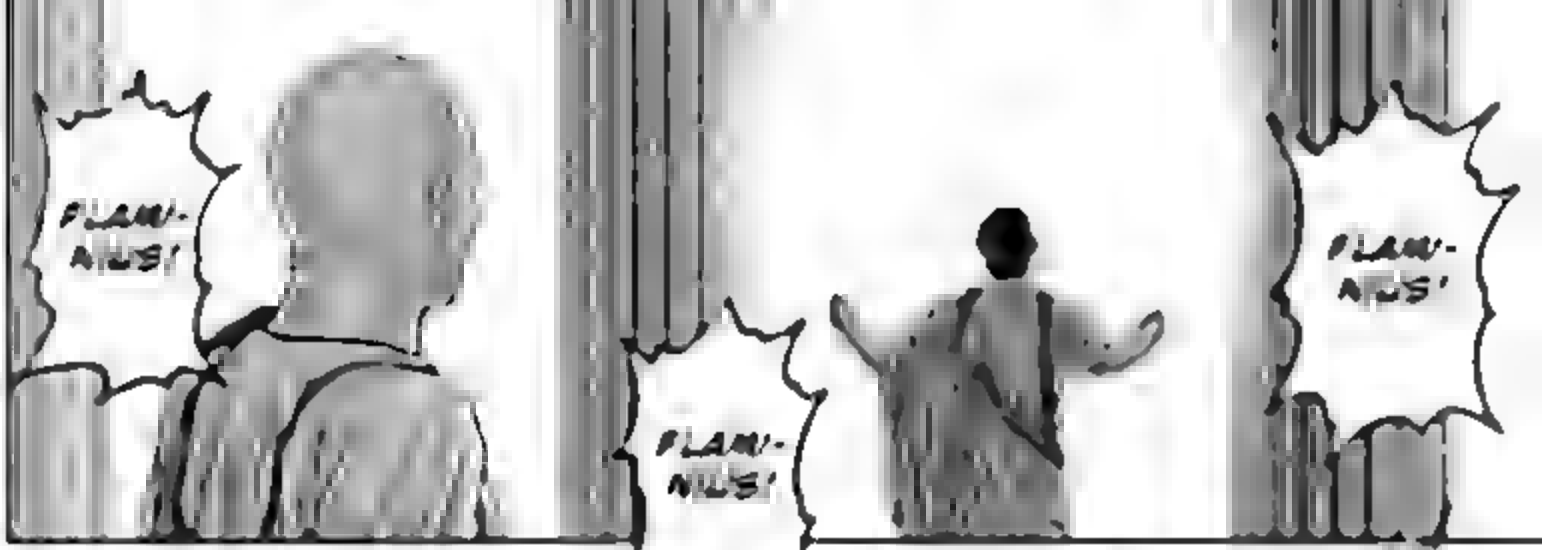
**WE'RE
COUNTING
ON YOU,
FLAMINIUS!**

**AVENGE
MY
BROTHER
FOR ME!**

**WITH THIS
YOU'RE
ALL BUT
ASSURED
THE
CONSUL-
SHIP!**

**WOOOO!
HOORAH!**

**CITIZENS
OF
ROME!**





IT SEEMS
FLAMINIUS'
LEGIONS ARE
PURSUING
HANNIBAL'S
FORCES
NEAR LAKE
TRASIMENE.

...I
REMAIN
IN ROME,
UNDER
AEMILIUS'
TUTELAGE.

OSTENSIBLY,
LEARNING
THE WAYS
TO THE
PATH OF
GLORY OR
WHATEVER
IT WAS.



SO LONG
AS THEY
KEEP IT UP,
I'M SURE
VICTORY WILL
BE WITHIN
THEIR GRASP.



HUH?...

DO
YOU...

TRULY
BELIEVE
THAT?



SOON THEY
WILL PINCH
HANNIBAL'S
FORCES
TOGETHER WITH
SERVILIUS
WHO MARCHED
OUT MORE
RECENTLY.

IT'S JUST AS
YOU PREDICTED,
FABIUS.
DESPITE HIS
SHORTCOMINGS,
AT THE LEAST,
FLAMINIUS IS
A CAPABLE
COMMANDER.

33



W-WHAT
DO YOU
MEAN
BY

WHAT'S
THAT?
WHAT'S
GOING
ON?

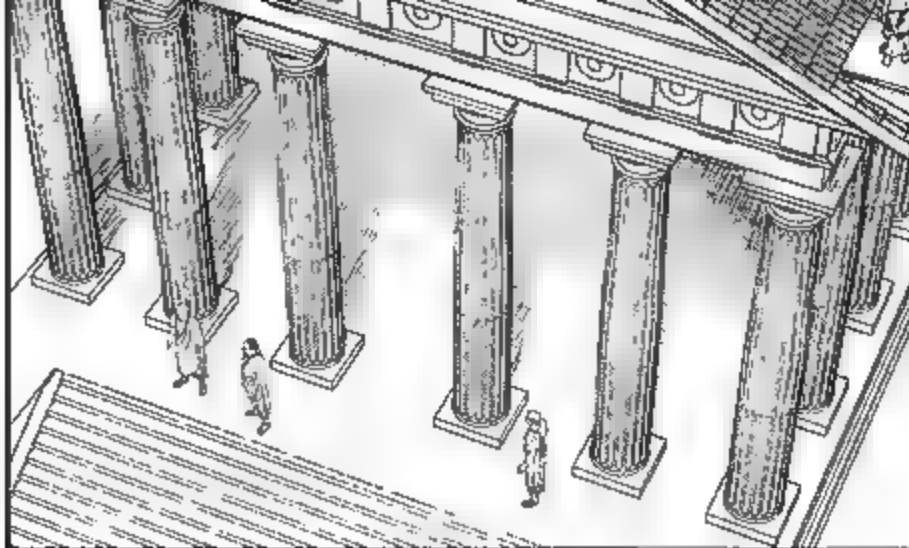


?

WE
CAN'T
SEE
ANYTHING
BECAUSE
OF THIS
DAMN
FOG!

HEY!
WHAT IN
THE GODS
NAMES
IS GOING
ON UP IN
FRONT?



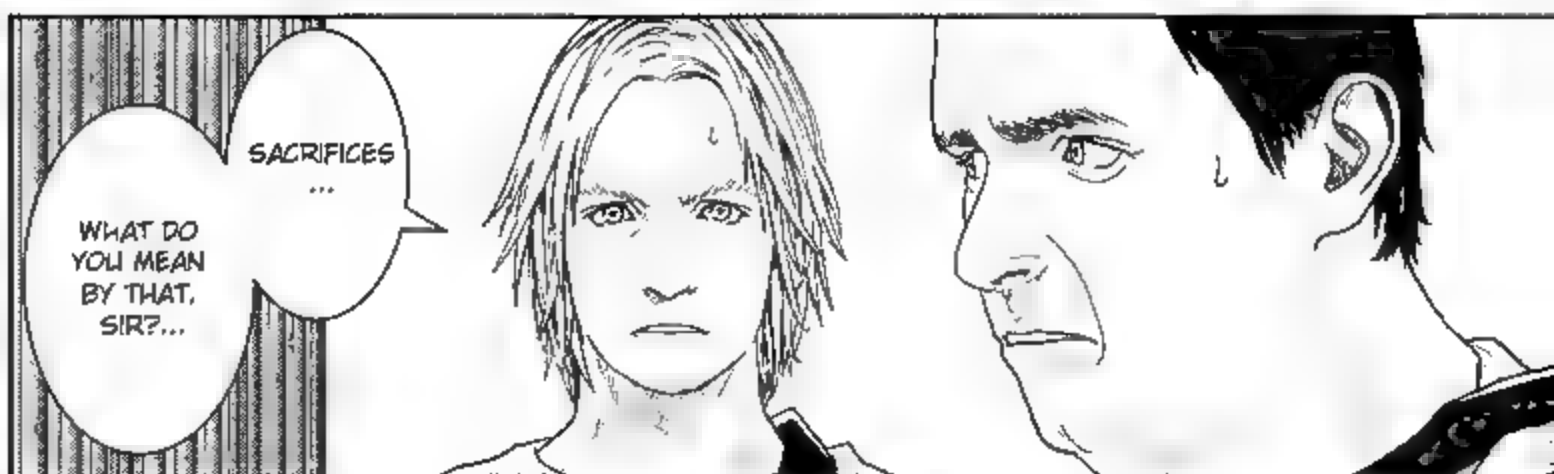


...HERO OF
THE PLEBS.
FLAMINIUS,
A MAN ADORED
BY THE THE
COMMON
CITIZENRY.



THEN I'M
SURE THE
PEOPLE WILL
FINALLY REAL SE
JUST HOW DIRE
THE SITUATION IS,
AND BE MORE
RECEPTIBLE
TO MAKING
SACRIFICES.

IF EVEN HE
WERE TO BE
DEFEATED BY
HANNIBAL,



SACRIFICES
...

WHAT DO
YOU MEAN
BY THAT,
SIR?...

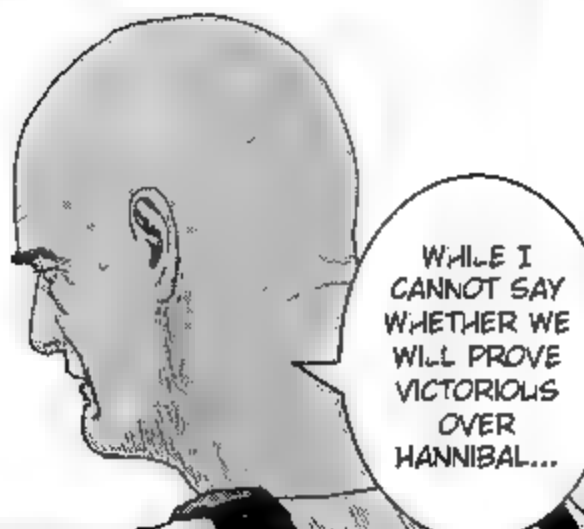


THIS, IT
IS MY DUTY
TO SEE THIS
WHOLE AFFAIR
THROUGH
TO ITS
CONCLUSION.



IT WAS
MY ACTIONS
THAT LED TO
WARFARE
BETWEEN
US AND
CARTHAGE.

ME THAT
FORCED
THEM DOWN
THAT PATH
WHEN THEY
HAD THE
CHOICE OF
PEACE.



WHILE I
CANNOT SAY
WHETHER WE
WILL PROVE
VICTORIOUS
OVER
HANNIBAL...



DO YOU
HAVE SOME
SORT OF
SECRET
PLAN TO
DEAL WITH
HANNIBAL?



AT THE
VERY LEAST,
THIS PLAN
GUARANTEES
THAT WE
CANNOT
LOSE.

A PLAN THAT...
GUARANTEES
WE CANNOT
LOSE...



SHALL BE
REDUCED
TO RUIN
THROUGH
OUR OWN
HANDS.

IF WE
ARE NOT
CAREFUL,
THESE
BEAUTIFUL
LANDS OF
ROME...

TRULY,
IT COULD
BE SAID TO
BE A LAST
RESORT.

HOWEVER,
THIS
STRATEGY
ITSELF WILL
COME AT A
STEEP
COST.



THE
SACRIFICE
OF A
HERO .

IT WAS
NECESSARY
FOR THE
SAKE OF
PROTECTING
ROME...

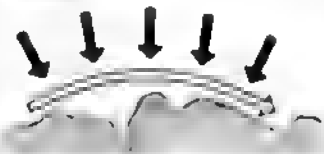
I AM
SORRY...
FLAMINIUS.

TALKING
ABOUT?

JUST
WHAT
IS THIS
MAN...

217 BC, 21ST OF JUNE
THE BATTLE OF LAKE TRASIMENE

■ HANNIBAL'S FORCES
□ AMINIUS' FORCES



ONCE WORD
OF THIS
DEATH
REACH
ROME, ITS
CITIZENS
FINALLY
REALISED
JUST HOW
GREAT A
FOE THEY
WERE UP
AGAINST.

AS ROME
CONSIDERED
THE
THREAT AS A
LARGE SCALE
FAMOUS WAS
ASSIGNED
CARRIAGE

PINCERED
BETWEEN THE
ENEMY AND
THE LAKE
THEY WERE
NOTHING BUT
DEATH

AND THAT
AS FAMOUS
WAS TAKEN
THE WERE
FELL IN
BATTLE

BEFORE
LAUNCHING
AN AMBUSH
ON THE
25 000
MEN UNDER
FLAMINIUS
WHO WERE ON
THE MARCH.

THE 80 000
SOLDIERS OF
HANNIBAL'S
FORCES WERE
LAIN IN WAIT
AMONGST THE
FORESTS,

THAT WHICH
TOOK PLACE
COULD NOT
EVEN BE
CONSIDERED
A BATTLE.

A MASSIVE
SLAUGHTER,
AS IF
PERFORMED
BY A PACK
OF SAVAGE
ANIMALS.



to be continued — ad astra vol 2 end

初出 ウルトラジャンプ 2011年10月号～ 2012年3月号掲載分収録

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小林 潤

装丁

成見 紀子

To be continued....



ご

購入ありがとうございます。お陰様で連載から一年が過ぎ2巻を出すことができました。

この一年を振り返ると前半1巻目は結構しんどい日々でした。初連載で要領も掴めず、ネームが上手くいってないとわかっていながらペン入れに突入せざるを得なかったり、担いだ荷物の重みに耐えかね投げ出したいぐらいでした。

ところが継続は力なりと云いますか、重い荷物を持ち続けたことで随分足腰が鍛えられたように思います。この2巻に入ってから締め切りに追われながらも結構楽しく描けました。

しかしウルジャンを見てると、まだ自分の漫画だけ素人臭くて浮いてるような状態なので、遜色ないものが作れるよう絵に話にしっかりと鍛錬していきたいと思えます。今は本当に全方位で余裕のないギリギリの状態で連載してるんですが、自分のスキルが上がって時間が出来たらのんびり琵琶湖で鯉釣りでもしたいんですけど、まあしばらく無理でしょうね。

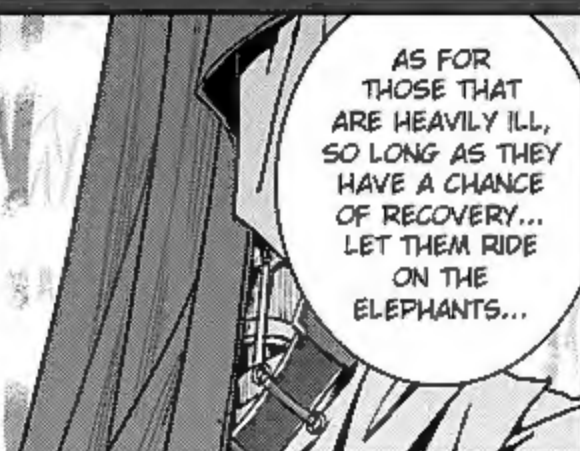
さて次回3巻は少しスキピオに大人しくしてもらって、12話に登場したファビウスが主軸となります。この第二次ポエニ戦争の第三の男、真の立役者ともいうべき人物で個人的に大好きなキャラです。

…とその前に3巻へのブリッジ的な位置づけで12・5話っぽい話を描きました。本来なら本編に組み込むべき内容なのですが、話の流れ上難しかったのでおまけで入れました。それではお楽しみ下さい。



Intermission





Intermission

